

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

REQUEST TO CREATE AND NAME A NEW DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA: DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND REHABILITATION SCIENCE

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to create and name a new department known as the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science in the Carver College of Medicine.

Executive Summary: The proposed department will incorporate existing programs and provide leadership, vision, and coordination for these programs as an administrative unit. This request has been reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to provide “educational excellence and impact” and Goal #8 – “Iowa’s public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and productive.”

Background:

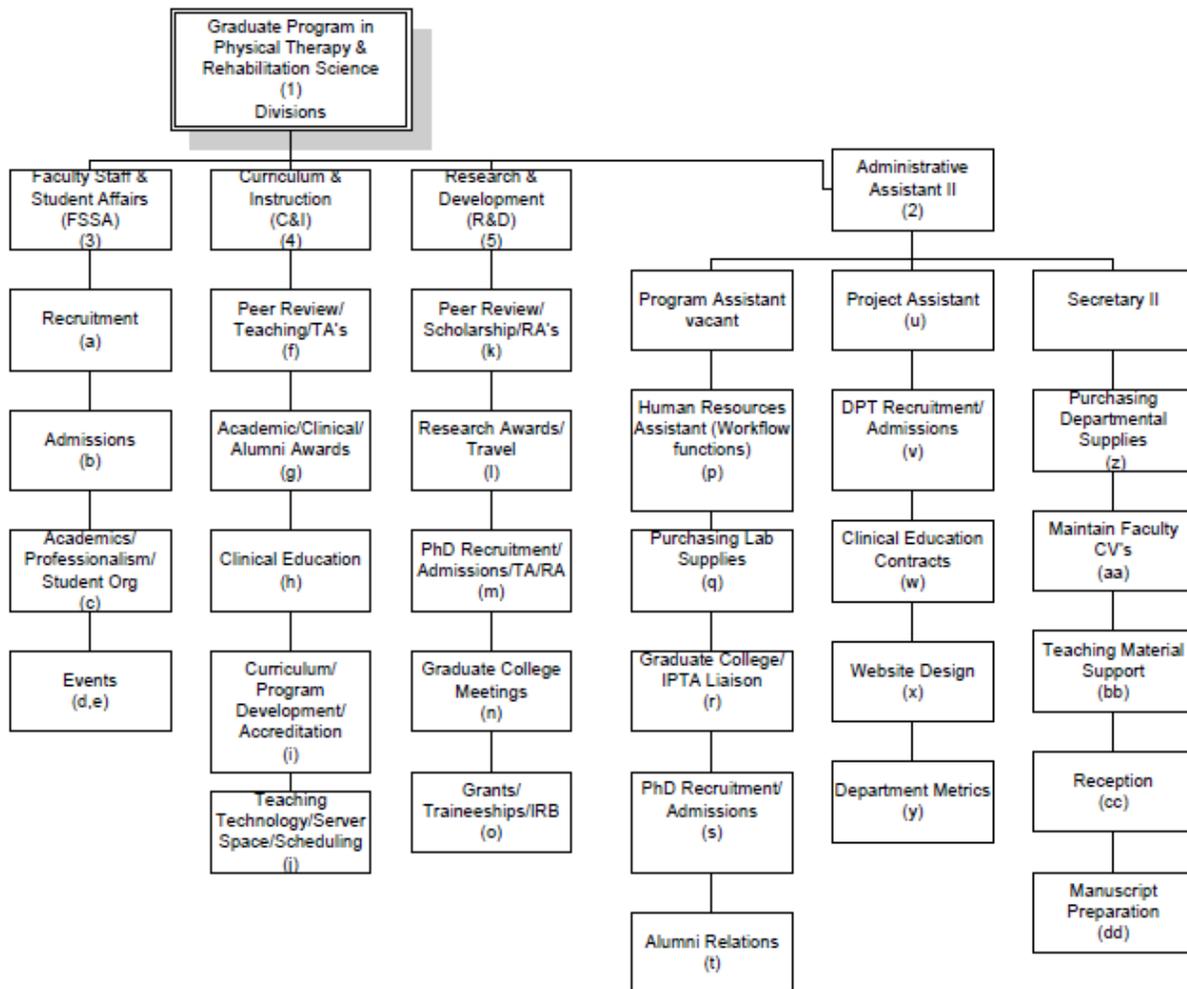
- ◇ Description of current organization. There are three graduate programs in Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science – Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT); Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.); and Master of Arts (MA). The title “Program in Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science” has remained the same despite evolving programs at the doctoral level. Functionally, the physical therapy degree (DPT) is distinctly different from the physical rehabilitation science (Ph.D.) and (MA) degrees. In fact, there are three specialty areas available rather than a single program. Three divisions oversee service operations within the program.
 - ⇒ *Faculty, Staff, and Student Affairs Division.* This division has multiple tasks, including student recruitment, student selection, student professional development and promotion, physical therapy student organization, continuing education, departmental social functions, financial aid, and departmental scholarships. The division consists of seven core faculty members, one adjunct faculty member, and one program administrative staff member.
 - ⇒ *Curriculum and Instruction Division.* This division’s responsibilities include overseeing the curriculum and facilitating review of instructional practices, assisting with accreditation reports, developing and assessing various curriculum models and threads, overseeing the approval of clinical education sites and teaching technology. The division consists of eight faculty members, two adjunct faculty members, and one staff member.
 - ⇒ *Research and Development Division.* This division is chaired by the program director and includes the Ph.D. Committee which is responsible for recruitment, admissions, and graduate teaching assistants, Ph.D. plans of study approval, dissertation oversight, research faculty mentoring, and curriculum and traineeship programs for Ph.D. and postdoctoral scholars.
- ◇ Description of proposed change. Creating the proposed department will integrate the three graduate programs under an administrative unit in response to the recommendation made in 2011 during the departmental review completed in the College of Medicine.

- ◇ Purpose of proposed change. The proposed department will more accurately portray (1) the breadth of degrees offered; (2) the background of the faculty (physical therapists, engineers, neuroscientists, exercise physiologists, biomechanists with terminal degrees); and (3) the research, education, and service contributions of the unit to the Carver College of Medicine and the University of Iowa.
- ◇ Proposed administrative organization. Administratively, the Program in Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science has had full departmental representation and privileges in the Carver College of Medicine since 2006. The current program chair will serve as department head. The three operational divisions described on the preceding page will be advisory to the department head. The program has three administrative staff and one secretary. Two administrative staff members oversee financial reports, budgets, human resources, and grants management under the direction of the program chair. One administrative staff member focuses on the entry-level professional doctoral degree program, including admissions, clinical education, curriculum, and student relations. One secretarial staff member serves the needs of all staff.
- ◇ Comparable name at other institutions. Peer institutions, including the University of Southern California, University of Pittsburgh, University of Florida (Gainesville), and University of Delaware offer their physical therapy degree through a departmental structure. In Iowa, St. Ambrose University, Des Moines University, and Clark College offer physical therapy training programs through an academic department in physical therapy.
- ◇ Anticipated cost savings. No new cost savings are projected to result from the new department. However, there are several organizational efficiencies/productivity that will likely result from establishing the department. The department will be able to more effectively compete for training grants from the National Institutes of Health. The accreditation review process will be expedited by eliminating the need for lengthy explanations about the lack of department status. The department's capacity to recruit outstanding faculty members will be enhanced because the concern about the "stability" of the program will be eliminated.
- ◇ Effect on students. The proposed administrative change will clarify to current and prospective students, as well as current and future faculty members, that the operation of the unit mirrors that of other departments in the Carver College of Medicine, in the state, and nationally. Grant applications for traineeships will likely be viewed more positively when emanating from a department rather than a program.
- ◇ Effect on resources. No new resources have been requested as part of the proposed creation of the department. Implementation of the new department will be fiscally neutral. The budget allocation for FY 2012 was \$1,596,401. The revenue for FY 2012 from tuition/fees and research grants was \$2,289,790 and \$1,455,493, respectively. All current resources will follow the new department.
- ◇ Anticipated impact on other units. This program has already been essentially operational as a department within the College from an organization perspective; therefore, there will be no direct impact on other units. Communications regarding the functional status of the department will be facilitated for other units in the Carver College of Medicine and the University.

- ◇ Proposed change consistent with mission of the College and University. The physical therapy program advances new knowledge in the field of rehabilitation. The program also awards a clinical doctorate which prepares healthcare practitioners (50% stay in Iowa) to serve patients, consistent with the mission of the College to advance healthcare. Faculty members from the physical therapy program offer educational expertise to the curriculum with the medical school and formally collaborate through research with several departments in the College; existing relationships among the College units will remain unchanged.

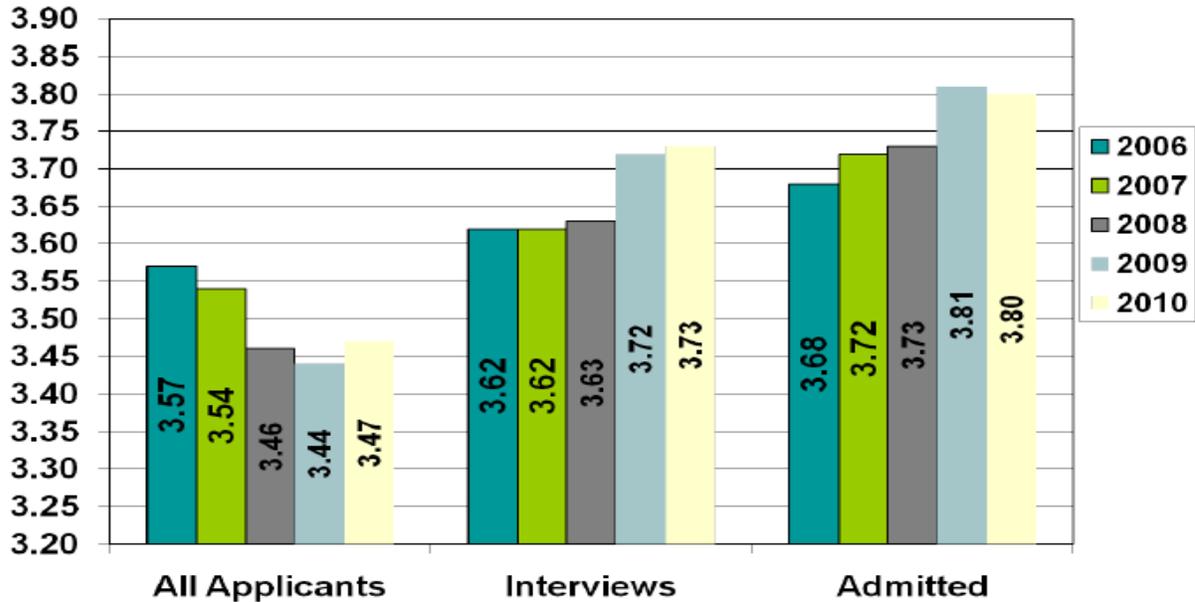
- ◇ Date of implementation. The proposed department reorganization will become effective upon approval by the Board of Regents and will be implemented in July 2012.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY AND REHABILITATION SCIENCE

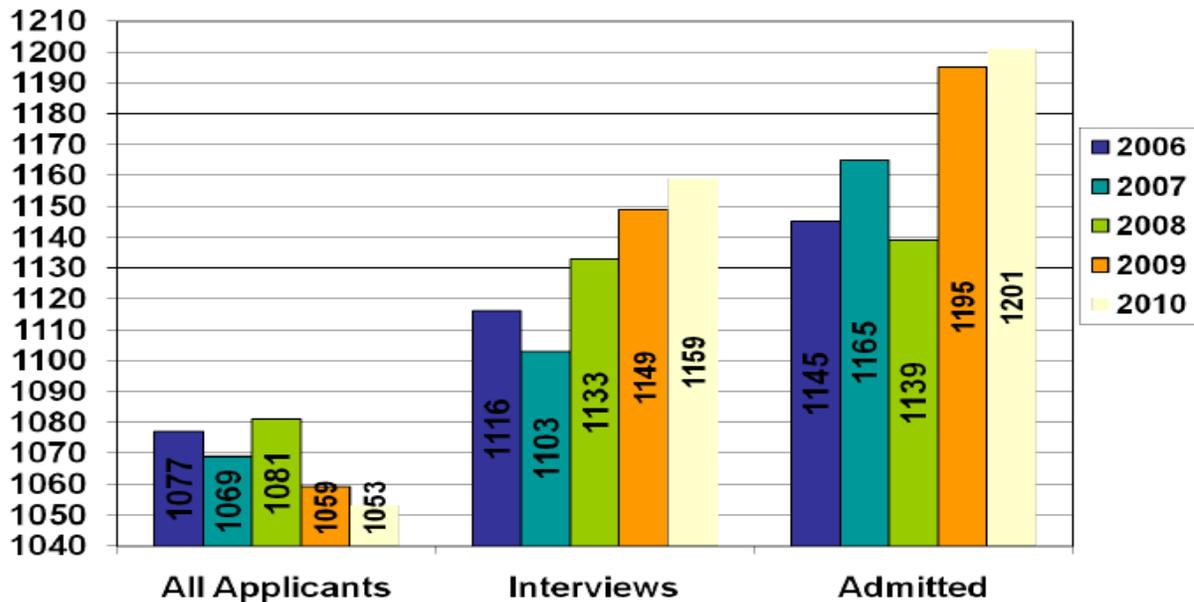


FIVE YEAR ADMISSIONS, GPA, AND GRE SCORES FOR DPT PROGRAM

DPT Admissions - GPA (2006-2010)



**DPT Admissions - GRE Scores
(Verbal & Quantitative Combined)**



FIVE YEAR SUMMARY FOR DPT, Ph.D., AND MA PROGRAMS

	DPT	Ph.D.	MA*
Applicants	1,212	101	NA
Enrolled	180	23	7
Graduates	173	18	7
Graduation Rate	96%	81%	100%

*Students admitted into the Ph.D. Program may opt to pursue the MA based on progress and individual plan of study.

FIVE YEAR FIRST TIME PASS RATES IN NATIONAL LICENSING EXAM

